



# HAMATEURCHATTER



One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - since 1917

Vol. 15 No. 9 - September, 2007

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by Howard, AB9FH

Ya gotta love HF. It's very amateur-ish .. hmm maybe that's not the right word .. a very low-key effort netted Poland, France, England, Venezuela, and Nova Scotia. Yes, Sir, I'm well on my way to DXCC. All with a simple rig and a 20m dipole 15 feet off the ground, just sitting inside the screen tent on the patio, on two Saturdays. Maybe four hours on the air. I am learning more about my radio, improving my listening skills, and compiling of lists of stuff I need: comfy chair, DSP speaker (lots of QRN), headphones, and DDT. I am glad the mosquitos weren't this bad in June!

The emergency communications focus in a recent QST magazine caught my attention. In particular, I was interested in the battery backup systems. This might make a good subject for a club meeting. I have read several articles lately on battery types, and there are significant safety issues that must be understood, as well as the economic issues. It's not hard to work a battery to death by using it incorrectly. We operate off commercial power at Field Day. If I can put some of these ideas into practice, maybe there will be a battery-powered station next year. Anyone else already operating this way? We'd love to hear about it at a meeting sometime.

Speaking of meetings, we have had pretty consistent attendance this year. Any ideas about what we could do to

encourage better attendance? Anything we are doing that is keeping people away? I think we have a pretty good mix of the formal and informal. The presentations have been interactive, and we have times like Buzz Talk when the focus is on you, the members. I like to keep the business part of the meeting a little more formal, because we need everybody to understand what we are doing and why.

One more plug for the MRAC-W9RH Yahoo group: a great way for the club to communicate. It combines the convenience of email and the persistence of a website. Got a question, or want to make an announcement? One email to the group address can be distributed to all the members. Have a useful article to share? Pictures? Post it to the file or photos sections. Add swapfests to the group calendar. Email the club at w9rh@arrl.net, or any Board member, and we will make sure you get an email invitation to join. If every club member who has email will take the five minutes to join, I promise you will notice an improvement in how we get things done.

That's all for now. I hope to see you at the next club meeting on the 27th. 73!

Howard, AB9FH

## MRAC Officers

<b>President</b>	
Howard Parks	AB9FH
<b>Vice President</b>	
Joe Schwarz	N9UX
<b>Secretary</b>	
Sarah Parks	KB9ZNC
<b>Treasurer</b>	
Mark Tellier	AB9CD

### Board of Directors

Brian Bieger	KC9HEK
('07-'09)	
Pancho Doneis	KA9OFA
('07-'09)	
Tom Liebe	WI9TOM
('06-'08)	
Al Maahs	KC9IJJ
('07-'09)	
Ted Stiller	WA9RDI
('06-'08)	

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### HamateurChatter Emailings

Joe Schwarz N9UX

### Regular Mailings

Dick Wood W9JBE

### Club/VEC Phone no. is

(414) 332-MRAC or  
(414) 332-6 7 2 2

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**M. R. A. C.**

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Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695  
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# NETS HEARD IN THE MILWAUKEE AREA

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY			
Daily	6:00-8:00 AM	14.2900	Milwaukee / Florida (SSB)	Wed.	8:00 PM	145.130- ARRL voice news
Daily	5:15-6:00 AM	3.9850	Wisconsin SSB net	Wed.	9:00 PM	145.130- MAARS Swapnet
Daily	7:30 AM	144.1550	Breakfast RoundTable (SSB)	Wed.	8:00 PM	147.270+ Weather & Swap Net
Daily	9:30 PM	3.9725	Country Cousins Net	Thu.	9:00 PM	50.160 6 m. SSB Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.8650-	ARES Net (Walworth and ARRL news)	Thu.	9:00 PM	146.910- Computer Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.4450	Emergency Net	<b>Fri. 8:00 PM 28.490 MRAC W9RH 10 m. Net (SSB)</b>		
Mon.	8:45 PM	147.1650	ARRL voice news (ARES)	<b>Fri. 9:00 PM 145.390- W9RH 2 m. FM Net after 10 mtr. net</b>		
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 m. SSB Net	Sat	9:00 PM	146.910- Saturday Night Fun Net
Mon.	9:00 PM	147.1650	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)	Sun.	8:30 AM	3.985 QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Tue.	9:00 AM	50.1600	6 m. 2nd Shifters' SSB Net	Sun.	9:00 AM	145.565 X-Country Simplex Group (FM)
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.2500	Badger Contesters (SSB)	Sun.	10:00 AM	443.800 FM-38 link to 146.88 Baraboo Swapnet
Tue.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 m. SSB Net	Sun.	8:00 PM	28.365 MKE Guardian chptr 10-10 net
Wed.	8:00 PM	28.365	MKE Guardian chptr 10-10 net	Sun.	8:00 PM	146.910- Information Net
				Sun.	9:00 PM	146.910- Swap Net

2 meter repeaters are offset by 600 KHz -- 70 centimeter repeaters are offset by 5 MHz  
SSB frequencies below 20 meters are LSB and for 20 meters and above are USB

## HAMATEURCHATTER

HamateurChatter is the newsletter of MRAC (Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club), a not for profit organization for the advancement of amateur radio and the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct.

MRAC Membership dues are \$17.<sup>00</sup> per year and run on a calendar year starting January 1.

MRAC general membership meetings are normally held at 7:00 p.m. the last Thursday of the month except for November (3rd Thursday due to Thanksgiving) and December, when Christmas dinner takes the place of a regular meeting.

Meetings are held at:

Redemption Lutheran Church  
Fellowship Hall  
4057 N. Mayfair Rd.  
Milwaukee, WI

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our **September 27<sup>th</sup>** meeting will feature:

**Mark, AB9CD,**  
who will talk about  
**Smith Charts.**

October 25<sup>th</sup> will be a program about Home Networking by Joe, N9UX

November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature Brian, K9LCQ, who will talk about our club website

December there will be no MRAC general membership meeting because of our Christmas Party/Dinner.

In January Brian, KC9HEK's program will be on software controlled radio.

## CREDITS

Our thanks to our news contributors this month:

AB9EY WB0JMG KF9PU  
AB9FH WB9ODQ KB9ZNC

Our thanks also goes to:  
**Rita Doneis, Hal Newton, Howard Parks and Tom Fuszard,** for proofreading the 'Chatter this month.



Thanks also to **Dick Wood** for mailing the hard copy of the 'Chatter and to **Joe Schwarz,** who Emails the 'Chatter.

**Brian White,** who administers our Web Site.

**Mark Tellier, Tom Fuszard and Tom Czaja** who manage our VEC.

***T h a n k Y O U !***

# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7/27/07

By SARAH PARKS, KB9ZNC

The meeting was called to order at 8:26 p.m. by our president, Howard, AB9FH. The secretary, Sarah, KB9ZNC, read the minutes of the last meeting. Howard, AB9FH, noted one error: the Technician class starts September 17th, not September 10th. He said it was possible he said it wrong at that meeting. There were no other corrections, so Tom, WI9TOM, moved to accept the minutes as corrected, and was seconded by Pancho, KA9OFA.

For the final time, Howard, AB9FH, read the treasurer's report. He noted that Mark, AB9CD, will be able to take over that duty for the next meeting. Pancho, KA9OFA, moved and Tom, WI9TOM, seconded approval of the report.

Howard, AB9FH, relayed an announcement from club VP, Joe, N9UX, that, if anyone who uses the ARRL forwarding service has not received their Chatter by email, be advised that the ARRL is having a great deal of trouble with junk emails using PDF attachments to spread viruses. He suggests that people supply an alternate address instead of their arrl.net address if they continue to have trouble receiving their newsletters. Or, they can always download the Chatter from the club website, <http://www.w9rh.org>, or from the MRAC-W9RH Yahoo group. Howard took the opportunity to plug the Yahoo group as a good way for the club to communicate between meetings. Dave, WB9BWP, gave a brief description of the group, and offered to assist anyone who wanted to join the group.

Other announcements: if anyone has logs from the 90th Anniversary special event, get them to Brian,

KC9HEK. He is assembling them. The 11 or so QSL cards received so far were on display at the front table. Tom, KF9PU, has been re-elected as Chairman of the NCVEC.

Old Business: the Christmas Party co-chairmen are Brian, KC9HEK, and Al, KC9IJJ. Any suggestions or ideas would be welcome.

The Technician class will run from September 17th through October 29th with no class on October 22nd. The class is being offered through the City of Greenfield cost will be \$25 for residents, and \$32 for non-residents. This will include the textbook. No word yet on how many have signed up for the class.

New Business: Joe, N9UX, is managing the creation of a detailed list of duties for board members, officers and committee chairs. This is long overdue and much appreciated. This list will be published when it is complete.

Mark, AB9CD, told the group about the Ozaukee County Radio Club's outdoor swapfest in Cedarburg on September 15th. The location will be at Fireman's Park.

Mark, AB9CD, mentioned that the next testing session for the MRAC VEC will be September 29th.

Tom, WI9TOM, made a motion to adjourn the business meeting and it was seconded by Al, KC9IJJ. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m..

Submitted by Sarah, KB9ZNC, secretary.

## ANTENNA FOR SALE

By LES, AB9EY

A Mosley CL-33 antenna.

It is a tri-bander (10, 15, 20 meters)

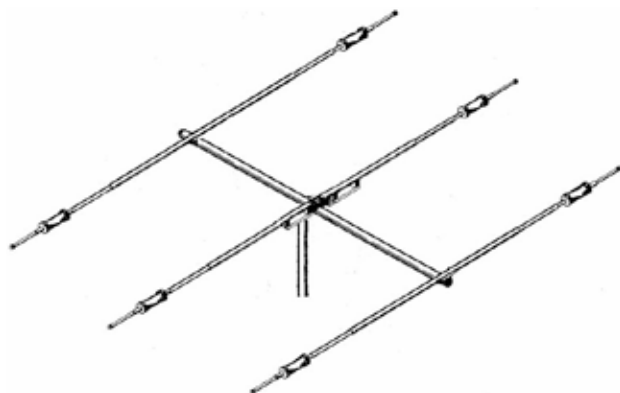
Still in original box.

2006 price was \$657.<sup>05</sup> plus tax.

**Will take best offer over \$300.<sup>00</sup>.**

I have all Specs and performance data.

**Les can be reached at (414) 744-6870**



# ESPERANTO AND HAM RADIO

## By ARTHUR JOHNSON , WB0JMG

In 1924 the ARRL adopted Esperanto as the International Auxiliary Language of Amateur Radio. As DX was increasing, a need was immigrating to improve international communications. Although this movement did not catch on very well with the Amateur Radio community, the need still exists.

### What is Esperanto?

Esperanto is the most successful of the so-called "constructed languages." In 1887, Dr. L.L. Zamenhof (an eye doctor by trade) published the first book of Esperanto Grammar under the pen name of Doctor Esperanto (Doctor who is hoping) and the name for the language became known as Esperanto. Dr. Zamenhof lived in a town in Poland, where Polish, German, Yiddish, and Russian were spoken by neighborhoods that had little understanding of each other, and less trust. A common politically neutral language seemed to be the answer.

### Why learn Esperanto?

We know English already. Everybody in the world knows English, right? Why, even aliens on Star Trek speak English. We Americans think that the whole world speaks English, and we can be understood if we just talk slower and louder. Anyone who does not speak English well is either stupid, uneducated, or both.

Attitudes like this are the problem that Esperanto is trying to fix. Since Esperanto is not claimed by any country, it is neutral. Esperanto is easy to learn, so easy in fact that it can be taught in correspondence courses or from text books and give the user a great deal of facility right away. The Boy Scouts use it for international Jamborees. The UN uses it. There are some short wave broadcasters that transmit radio programs in it. Some musical groups have used it, not only to promote international sales, but because of its lyrical structure.

The structure is simple, one letter = one sound. Words are built up from roots with prefixes and suffixes to modify it. Nouns end in "o", adjectives end in "a", and verbs in "i." The accent is always on the second to the last syllable of each word.

### For example:

- **Urbo** = town (like urban, suburban, etc.).  
(Pronounced: **OOB boh**)
- **Urbeto** = small town = urb(town) + et(small) +  
o(noun) (**oorb-ET-oh**)
- **Urbego** = Large town = urb(town) + eg(large) +  
o(noun) (**oorb-EGG-oh**)
- **Urbestro** = Mayor = urb(town) estr(leader)  
o(noun) (**oorb-ES-troh**)
- **Urbestraro** = City Council = urb (town) +  
estr(leader) + ar(collection of) o(noun)  
(**oorb-estr- AR-oh**)
- **Urba** = City(adjective) for example: urba trafiko =  
City Traffic. **OOB-ba tra-FEE-ko**

Here are some associations between Ham Radio and Esperanto from the beloved internet:

ILERA (Internacia Ligo de Esperantistoj RadioAmatoroj) - International League of Esperantists - RadioAmateurs. <http://www.esperanto.org/ilera/> They also offer an award for working 10 of their

members. (Not necessarily in Esperanto!)

The USA national organization for Esperanto known as ELNA (the Esperanto League of North America) had a place on its application form for Amateur Radio Call Letters. Why? I think because many Hams are also interested in international communications.

<http://www.esperanto-usa.org/>

There is a lively culture of literature, poetry, science, music, and fellowship within the Esperanto movement. World travel opens up new opportunities with the directory of persons who will put you up in their homes if you are an Esperanto speaker.

I believe that, for people who like to learn about people from foreign lands, Esperanto and Ham Radio go together. It is probably the easiest language to learn. It can show to other cultures that you are willing to meet them half way on language. And lastly, I find it fun to learn this language. For further information, search the internet, or contact the Minnesota Esperanto Association.

73 (Sep-dek-tri), Artie, WB0JMG

Meetings in St.Paul, MN twice a month:

Minnesota Esperanto Association

1422 Como Ave.

St. Paul, MN 55108

E-mail: [verdul0@ourtownusa.net](mailto:verdul0@ourtownusa.net)

Local contact: **Pancho Doneis, KA9OFA**

1958 N. 38th St.

Milwaukee, WI 53205

phone (414) 344-4694

or at: [adoneis@wi.rr.com](mailto:adoneis@wi.rr.com)



**J.O.T.A AT PIONEER VILLAGE 10/07!**  
**BY BILL, KA9WRL**

The next LeFrog event is J.O.T.A.. For our new members, it's an outing for Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts specifically designed to get them interested in Ham Radio by talking on the air to other Scouts around the world. **J.O.T.A.** stands for "**Jamboree On The Air**" and is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in October every year. This year our club will be hosting the event, along with the Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club and the Ozaukee Radio Club (Oct. 19 thru the 21) at Pioneer Village, 9 Miles North of County Highway 60 on County I (adjacent to Hawthorne Hills Country Club).

Scouts can camp below the hill in or near the 4H Shelter.



# EVENTS

**MRAC Membership Meeting**  
Thu. - Sept. 27, 2007

**Radio Expo 2007**  
September 29 & 30  
Boone Co. Fairgrounds  
Belvedere, IL  
146.76- (107.2 PL)  
147.255+ (114.8 PL)

**Southeast Iowa HamFest**  
Sun. - Oct. 7, 2007  
Muscatine Co. Fairgrounds  
West Liberty IA  
T/I on 146.31/91  
or 146.52 simp



## JOTA (Scout Jamboree On The Air)

Oct. 19-21 2007  
Pioneer Village  
Cedarburg, WI

**MRAC Membership Meeting**  
Thu. - Oct. 25, 2007

## Milwaukee Repeater Club SwapFest

Sat. - Nov. 3, 2007  
Elks Lodge 5555 W. Good Hope Road,  
Across the street from AES  
Milwaukee, WI  
Talk-in on 146.910, - offset (127.3 PL)

**VE Testing @ AES**  
8:30-11:00a.m.

**MRAC Membership Meeting**  
Thu. - Nov. 29, 2007

**MRAC Christmas Party/Dinner**  
Early Dec. 2007

\* indicates VE testing  
is available.

## VE NEWS BY Tom, KF9PU

We had a nice session on July 28. Sixteen people visited us, and all but one left with either a new license or an upgrade. (Had one renewal as well.)

VEs who assisted us included:

Naomi Potash..... KG9GSS  
Larry Noldan..... NZ9I  
Mark Bye..... KB9LDX  
Bernie Golownia..... AA9CI  
Wes Andersen..... N9YE  
Nels Harvey..... WA9JOB  
Bob Diehl..... WB9KMT

Our next session will be on Sept. 29.

VEC financial report for July.

Beginning balance: \$4,512.22  
Income: \$65.00  
Expenses: \$0  
Ending balance: \$4,577.22

## REMINDERS

Please check into our nets on Friday evenings.

Our **Ten Meter SSB** net is at  
8:00 p.m. at 28.490 MHz  $\pm$  5 KHz  
USB.

Our **Two Meter FM** net follows at  
9:00 p.m. on our repeater at 145.390  
MHz, minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz.

Join us for **Saturday Morning  
Breakfast** at **Maxim's Restaurant**,  
18025 W. Capitol Dr. We usually meet  
at around 8:00 a.m., and order around  
8:15 a.m. The food and the company  
are good and you don't have to be a  
member of the club to join us.

**CQ Third Tuesday**  
Come to CQ Third Tuesday at:  
**Old Country Buffet**  
16750 West Bluemound Rd.  
Brookfield, WI

This gathering of HAMs meets on  
the third Tuesday of every month.

We start arriving there at 11:00 a.m.  
and leave when we're full and/or all  
talked out.

## EXAM SCHEDULE BY TOM FUSZARD, KF9PU

**MRAC VEC**  
**Exam Schedule**  
**For remainder of 2007**

**Sat., Sep. 29 9:30 a.m. @AES**

Sat., Oct. 27 9:30 a.m. @AES

Sat., Nov. 24 9:30 a.m. @AES

For details, check out:

[www.w9rh.org/testing.htm/](http://www.w9rh.org/testing.htm/)

**AES = Amateur Electronic  
Supply**

5710 W. Good Hope Rd.  
Milwaukee, WI

Here is a schedule of the VE Test Sessions in  
Janesville, Wisconsin for the remainder 2007:  
October 20, 2007

The time and location is listed on the ARRL  
Listed Test Sessions or on my **N9FRY** call page  
under QRZ.COM.

The next meeting of MRAC  
will be **Thursday, September 27, 2007**  
at **7:00 p.m.**

**Redemption Lutheran Church**

Fellowship Hall

4057 N. Mayfair Rd.

(Use the south entrance)

**HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE**

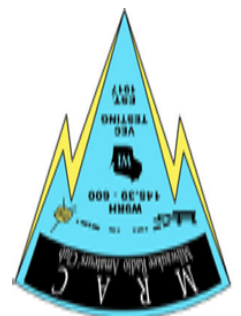
**Please, DON'T call the church.**

**Our Repeater,  
Talk it up.  
145.390- MHz  
(127.3 Hz PL)**

**Our featured program  
for the Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>  
general  
meeting will be Mark,  
AB9CD, who will talk  
about Smith Charts.**

Visit our website at: [www.w9rh.org](http://www.w9rh.org)

Our phone **(414) 332-MRAC**  
**332-6 7 2 2**



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**First Class**